

**Charles Smith** 

**Executive Commissioner** 

Feb. 28, 2018

To People Interested in Board for Evaluation of Interpreters Advisory Board Issues:

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission is accepting applications for membership on the board. The board was created by the Human Resources Code, Chapter 81 as enacted by Senate Bill 1157, Chapter 690 during the 66<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature, 1979, which gives HHSC the authority to establish a board of seven people, living in Texas, to help administer the statewide interpreter certification program.

The HHS executive commissioner will appoint members to the board to serve a three-year term. The board will include key stakeholders as determined by the executive commissioner. The board must include representatives of each of the following:

- An applicant who is deaf, often uses interpreting services, demonstrates knowledge of the field of interpreting and linguistics and has a unique understanding of the demographics and dynamics of Texas' Deaf Community.
- An applicant who is deaf and holds a valid BEI Intermediary Level III certificate, an Intermediary - Level V certificate or a BEI Certified Deaf Interpreter Certificate.
- An applicant who is hearing and holds a valid BEI Advanced or Master certificate or who an active professional interpreter for at least three of the past five years.

A board member must regularly participate in board meetings and may also have to participate in subcommittee meetings, projects and presentations. Board meetings will be held in Austin at least three times at the call of the presiding officer. Board members won't receive compensation or a stipend for participation. Reimbursement of travel expenses for board members is allowed as funding is appropriated, in accordance with the HHSC travel reimbursement policy.

If you would like to serve on the board, please complete and return the attached application and required video no later than **April 1.** You may submit the application by email, mail or fax.

Email: lori.breslow@hhsc.state.tx.us Attn: Lori Breslow

Mail: Texas Health and Human Services Commission P.O. Box 12904

Austin, TX 78711 Attn: Lori Breslow

Fax: 512-407-3299 Attn: Lori Breslow

HHSC will notify applicants by June 2018, if they have been selected to serve as a member of the board.

HHSC considers the applicants' qualifications, background and interest in serving on the board. HHSC also tries to choose board members who, as a whole, represent the diversity of all Texas citizens. For that reason, HHSC considers applicants' ethnicity, gender and geographic location.

For more information, contact Lori Breslow at lori.breslow@hhsc.state.tx.us.